

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application of this application is requested. Claims 1-20 are in this case.

I. SPECIFICATION

The specification has been objected to in view of a typographical error appearing on page 3. In response, the appropriate paragraph has been corrected in the present response.

II. ABSTRACT

The specification has been objected to as not containing an Abstract. In response, a new Abstract is presented on a separate sheet herewith. This Abstract is based on that appearing on the front face of the published WO 99/37680. No new matter is entered.

III. THE 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH, REJECTION

Claims 1-14 stand rejected 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being allegedly indefinite for the reasons stated on pages 3 and 4 of the Action. In response, the claims have been amended to deal with the outstanding informalities. The following comments are offered.

Claim 1 has been objected to in view of the expression “with to form” and because of the recitation “including”. In response, claim 1, as well as other claims in the case, have been amended to replace “including” with “comprising”. The typographical error appearing in claim 1 has also been corrected.

Claim 5 has been objected to as missing “a”. In response, claim 5 has been amended to include “a”.

Claims 10 and 12 have been objected to in view of the expression “and/or”. In response, claims 10 and 12 have been amended to refer to “or”. New claims 17 and 18 are based on claims 10 and 12 and recite “and”.

Claim 14 has been objected to as lacking antecedent basis. In response, claim 14 has been amended so as to be independent.

Withdrawal of the outstanding 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, rejections now believed to be in order. Such action is respectfully requested.

IV. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

During review of the claims, it was noted that preferred statements appeared in claims 1 and 5. In order to improve the form of the claims, those preferred statements

have been removed from claims 1 and 5 and new dependent claims 15 and 16 have been presented directed to those features. No new matter is entered.

V. SPECIFICATION

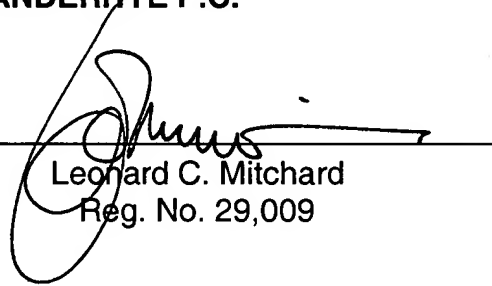
During review of claim 14, it was noted reference is made to "Factor XIII". This should read "Factor VIII". That correction has been made in amended claim 14 and also in the specification at page 5 beginning at line 5. It is clear from the specification that Factor VIII was intended. No new matter is entered.

Allowance of the application is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 3 beginning at line 6:

Accordingly, the present invention consists in a method of obtaining a fibrinogen enriched preparation, the method including the following steps:

- (i) adding an effective amount of a sulphated polysaccharide (SPS) to a fibrinogen containing solution [with] to form a fibrinogen containing precipitate; and
- (ii) extracting fibrinogen from the fibrinogen containing precipitate from step (i) with a solution containing at least 0.1 M, and preferably at least 0.2M, salt to obtain a fibrinogen enriched preparation.

Page 5 beginning at line 5 please amend to read as follows:

Accordingly, the present invention also provides a method of obtaining a preparation enriched for fibronectin or Factor [XIII] VIII, the method comprising extracting fibronectin or Factor [XIII] VIII from the fibronectin enriched preparation obtained according to the method of the present invention in which the fibrinogen containing solution is a blood plasma fraction.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (amended). A method of obtaining a fibrinogen enriched preparation, the method. [including] comprising the following steps:-

(i) adding an effective amount of a sulphated polysaccharide (SPS) to a fibrinogen containing solution [with] to form a fibrinogen containing precipitate; and

(ii) extracting fibrinogen from the fibrinogen containing precipitate from step (i) with a solution containing at least 0.1 M, and preferably at least 0.2M, salt to obtain a fibrinogen enriched preparation.

2 (Amended). A method as claimed in claim 1 in which the fibrinogen containing solution is a blood plasma fraction[, preferably cryoprecipitate].

3 (Twice amended). A method as claimed in claim 1 in which the solution [includes] comprises at least one salt selected from the group consisting of chloride, phosphate and acetate salts.

4 (Amended). A method as claimed in claim 3 in which the solution [includes] comprises NaCl.

5 (Amended). A method as claimed in claim 4 in which the NaCl is present at a concentration of from about 0.1M to about 2.0M[, preferably from about 0.2M to

about 0.8M].

10 (Twice amended). A method as claimed in claim 1 in which the method further [includes] comprises the step of treating the fibrinogen enriched preparation to remove SPS [and/or] or plasminogen.

11 (Twice amended). A method as claimed in claim 1 in which the method further [includes] comprises the step of subjecting the fibrinogen enriched preparation to a viral inactivation step.

12 (Amended). A method as claimed in claim 11 in which the viral inactivation step [involves] comprises heating [and/or] or solvent detergent treatment.

14 (Amended). A method of obtaining a preparation enriched for fibronectin or Factor [XIII] VIII, the method comprising the following steps:-

(i) adding an effective amount of a sulphated polysaccharide (SPS) to a fibrinogen containing blood plasma fraction preferably cryoprecipitate to form a fibrinogen containing precipitate;

(ii) extracting fibrinogen from the fibrinogen containing precipitate from step (i) with a solution containing at least 0.1 M, and preferably at least 0.2M, salt to obtain a fibrinogen enriched preparation;

(iii) extracting fibronectin or Factor [XIII] VIII from the fibrinogen enriched preparation obtained [according to the method of claim 2] in step (ii).

Please add the following new claims:

15 (New). A method as claimed in claim 1 in which the fibrinogen containing solution is a cryoprecipitate.

16 (New). A method as claimed in claim 4 in which the NaCl is present at a concentration of from about 0.2M to about 0.8M.

17 (New). A method as claimed in claim 1 in which the method further comprises the step of treating the fibrinogen enriched preparation to remove SPS and plasminogen.

18 (New). A method as claimed in claim 11 in which the viral inactivation step comprises heating and solvent detergent treatment.

19 (New). A method as claimed in claim 14 in which, in step (i), the fibrinogen containing blood plasma fraction is cryoprecipitate.

20 (New). A method as claimed in claim 14 in which, in step (ii), the solution

contains at least 0.2M salt to obtain said fibrinogen enriched preparation.